



Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 29 July 2003

Current Nationwide Threat Level is



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www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- NBC 4 Washington reports researchers say current recommended anthrax treatment may be insufficient and that people exposed to high levels of anthrax may need more than the 60 days of antibiotics currently recommended. (See item [14](#))
- The New York Times reports the latest budget numbers indicate that the budget crises in California and in almost every other state are beginning to drag down the national economy, prolonging the weak, jobless recovery. (See item [17](#))
- The Washington Post reports that experts say that wireless fidelity, or WiFi, vulnerability is now one of the most serious threats to computer security. (See item [21](#))

DHS/IAIP Update Fast Jump

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *July 28, Sacramento Business Journal* — Natural gas reserves dwindle. Californians are being urged to conserve electricity, because the state's natural gas reserves are down 19 percent from last year. About 40 percent of the natural gas used in California gets burned in power plants that generate electricity, and California consumers are using a lot of electricity this summer due to the hot weather. Natural gas companies are having a tough time keeping up with population growth, and an increase in natural gas-fired power plants across the

country. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham has warned state utility regulators across the U.S. that underground storage levels of natural gas are unusually low due to weather factors and declines in both domestic production and new imports. Canada has filled some of the gap, but he said some analysts believe that source may have peaked.

Source: <http://famulus.msnbc.com/famuluscom/bizjournal07-28-010403.a sp?bizj=SAC#body>

2. *July 28, Government Accounting Office* — **Report GAO-03-762: Propane: Causes of Price Volatility, Potential Consumer Options, and Opportunities to Improve Consumer Information and Federal Oversight.** More than 4.6 million residential households in the U.S., many with low incomes, rely on propane to heat their homes. **Propane prices have been subject to major price spikes in two of the last three winters.** Responding to congressional concern caused by these price spikes, the GAO undertook a study to address the (1) factors that affect residential propane price volatility, (2) options available to propane consumers to mitigate price volatility, and (3) federal role in the propane market. **The GAO recommends that the Departments of Commerce and Energy provide more active oversight of the legislatively established Propane Education and Research Council.** In addition, the GAO recommends that Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration study the potential cost and benefits of continuing to improve information for propane market participants.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d03762high.pdf>

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Chemical Sector

Nothing to report.

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

3. *July 26, U.S. Department of Defense* — **Army announces the alert of two National Guard enhanced separate brigades.** The Army announced on Saturday, July 26, that it has alerted two U.S. Army National Guard Enhanced Separate Brigades that they may participating in the Army unit rotation plan for Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Army has stated that these units will provide capabilities necessary to perform the on going mission in Iraq. The deployment window for these units is between February and April of 2004, and will last up to one year from mobilization to demobilization.

Source: <http://www.dod.mil/releases/2003/nr20030726-0244.html>

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Banking and Finance Sector

4. *July 28, Jefferson City (MO) News Tribune* — **Few leads in counterfeit bill case.** Jefferson City, MO, police are investigating a counterfeit bill operation where fake \$50 and \$100 dollar bills are being used to purchase items at local businesses. The bills were discovered

to be counterfeit after those businesses made deposits at local banks. The police think the bills have been in circulation for the past two weeks in mid-Missouri.

Source: http://www.newstribune.com/stories/072803/loc_0728030055.asp

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Transportation Sector

5. *July 28, Associated Press* — **US Airways posts profit in first quarter since bankruptcy exit.**

US Airways posted a \$13 million profit in its first quarter since emerging from bankruptcy protection, bolstered by a \$214 million handout from the government that masked operating losses. **The Arlington-based airline, which emerged from bankruptcy protection March 31, said Monday it suffered in the second quarter of 2003 from a weak economy and the war in Iraq. Still, its \$13 million profit was significantly better than the year-ago quarter, when it lost \$248 million.** "We have made great strides in executing the key elements of our restructuring plan related to increasing revenue, reducing costs and improving liquidity, all against the backdrop of a challenging industry environment," said company President David Siegel. **The airline increased its cash on hand during the quarter by \$157 million, to \$2 billion. The money will be used to finance the company's restructuring plan, which calls for a heavy investment in smaller regional jets that will replace unpopular turboprop aircraft on small routes and more expensive regional jets on larger routes.**

Source: http://www.ajc.com/business/content/business/delta/0703/28us_airearn.html

6. *July 28, CNN Money* — **Atlantic Coast and United expect to part ways.** Atlantic Coast Airlines, which had been having difficulty renegotiating its regional jet service with bankrupt UAL Corp.'s United Airlines, said Monday it expects to end that relationship and start up a new low-fare airline. **Atlantic Coast, which depends on United for about 85 percent of its business, said it has decided to run an independent airline out of Washington, DC,'s Dulles International Airport, after evaluating changes in the struggling airline industry. The airline said it was evaluating whether to use aircraft made by Boeing Co. or Airbus, and said it had been in talks with other airlines about forming code-share marketing deals to boost revenue.** But Atlantic Coast said it could not predict how quickly its break from United would take place.

Source: http://money.cnn.com/2003/07/28/pf/saving/travel/atlantic_united.reut/

7. *July 28, The Trucker* — **California's truck disabling device bill to re-emerge in January.**

California legislation that would require truck disabling devices and global positioning or other "location reporting systems" on hazmat haulers failed in the California Senate several days ago but the bill will come up again for a vote in January. **Bill backers hope by then to have answered some of the trucking industry's concerns about the legislation, AB 575,** sponsored by Assemblyman John A. Dutra. The bill says it would require hazmat haulers "... to be equipped with a device that enables a peace officer, a motor carrier, or motor carrier's agent to immediately disable the vehicle, or a device that the Department of the California Highway Patrol determines is at least as effective in deterring hijacking as a disabling device." "I've been in contact with the CTA (California Trucking Association); their position is that it puts them at a competitive disadvantage with out-of-state truckers," said Howard Posner, a consultant with California's Assembly Transportation Committee. **The bill itself doesn't actually specify**

whether it will apply to interstate or intrastate trucks Posner said, adding that, "We understand we can't regulate interstate loads but if the bill's enacted, the California Highway Patrol could petition for a waiver to apply the bill to interstate truckers."

Source: http://www.thetrucker.com/stories/07_03/0728_cal_disable.html

8. *July 28, Government Accounting Office* — **Report GAO-03-770: Expansion of Key Customs Programs Will Require Greater Attention to Critical Success Factors.** As announced in January 2002, the U.S. Customs Service (Customs) implemented the Container Security Initiative (CSI) to screen for high-risk containers at overseas ports and Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (CTPAT) to improve global supply chain security in the private sector. **The GAO found that although Customs is preparing to devote significantly more resources to CSI and C-TPAT as it expands the programs, it has not taken adequate steps to incorporate factors necessary for the programs' long-term success and accountability.** These factors include human capital planning, development of performance measures, and strategic planning. To ensure that CSI and C-TPAT achieve their long-term objectives, **GAO recommends that the Secretary of Homeland Security, working with the Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection and managers for both programs, • develops human capital plans that clearly describe how the programs will recruit, train, and retain staff; • expands efforts to develop performance measures that include outcome-oriented indicators; and • develops strategic plans that clearly lay out the programs' goals, objectives, and implementation strategies.** Highlights:

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d03770high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-03-770>

9. *July 27, Associated Press* — **Government to offer Amtrak reform plan.** A new Bush administration proposal for Amtrak's future could end the government-subsidized railroad's monopoly on intercity passenger rail travel, a congressional supporter says. **The legislation is intended to eliminate unprofitable long-distance routes and force states to give more financial support to intercity passenger rail. Amtrak has been under severe pressure from Congress and the Bush administration to end its dependency on government cash and start turning a profit.** The passenger railroad has received government subsidies every year of its 32-year existence. The plan would give states responsibility to form regional railroads that would hire Amtrak or other private companies to run the trains. **The Boston-to-Washington line would be treated differently because it's the only large segment of railroad that Amtrak owns.** Under the plan, the Northeast Corridor would be broken into three entities: a compact between the federal and state government to lease and improve the railroad infrastructure; a company to operate the trains; and a company to maintain the tracks and equipment. **Amtrak, formed in 1971 from defunct passenger railroads, serves 500 communities in 46 states on 22,000 miles of track.**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn/A53145-2003Jul27?language=printer>

10. *July 25, Government Technology* — **Ohio Transit Authority gets "Smart" system.** The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) is in the midst of a long-term operations upgrade that features the latest in Intelligent Transportation Systems technologies. With Computer Aided Dispatch/Automatic Vehicle Location (CAD/AVL) and Web Itinerary Planning functionality already in place, COTA has set its sites on even more cutting-edge technologies for improving operating efficiency and customer service. **Created in 1971,**

COTA serves an area of 543 square miles with a fleet of more than 300 buses covering nearly 1,000 route miles and 5,500 bus stop locations. To increase operation efficiency and safety, and to enhance customer service, COTA has begun implementing a multi-year plan for the deployment of transit based intelligent transportation systems. **The foundation of COTA's ITS plan is Computer Aided Dispatch/Automatic Vehicle Location capacity functionality provided by its CAREERS system (Cota Advanced Replacement Economic Environment Radio System).** Prior to the introduction of this technology, dispatchers were limited only to radio communications with Operators who verbally indicated their status and location. Today, the CAREERS system tracks the location of every bus and service vehicle in the fleet.

Source: <http://www.govtech.net/news/news.php?id=2003.07.25-61498>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

11. *July 26, Farming Life* — **Major mastitis breakthrough. Farmers could soon have an effective way to treat and prevent mammary gland damage caused in dairy cows, following attack by mastitis causing bacteria.** This is a direct result of research carried out by Max Paape, a dairy scientist with the Agricultural Research Service. He has applied for a patent on the cloned gene that codes for a protein called CD14 and its application for treating mastitis-infected cows and preventing future cases. Coliform bacteria account for about 40 to 50 percent of all cases of dairy mastitis in the world. CD14 binds and neutralizes endotoxins, the chemicals that attack mammary tissue. The CD14 complex causes the mammary cell to secrete chemicals that attract specialized white blood cells to the infection site to destroy the coliform pathogens. As a result, **CD14 protects cows from shock and reduces clinical symptoms associated with coliform mastitis. In studies, it was also 100 percent effective in preventing mastitis caused by Escherichia coli in lactating dairy cows. Eventually, bioengineered cows could be developed with immunity to mastitis.**

Source: http://www.farminglife.com/flnews/content_objectid=13214872_method=full_siteid=51658_headline=-America-claims-major-mastitis-breakthrough-name_page.html

12. *July 26, United Press International* — **Mass cattle cull possible in Canada. As many as one third of Canada's cows may have to be killed because of a lingering beef embargo, a report said Monday. Hardest hit is Alberta, which produces 75 percent of Canadian beef for export. Officials there are saying as many as one-third of the 5.2 million head may have to be killed and buried by the fall.** The United States closed its borders to Canadian beef after a lone cow was diagnosed with bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or mad cow disease, May 20. More than 30 other countries followed suit. The Canadian government and international officials later declared the food chain safe. Meanwhile, officials at the Canadian Cattlemen's Association say the surplus cows could be processed, canned and given to food

banks rather than be buried.

Source: http://washingtontimes.com/upi-breaking/20030728-062207-6511_r.htm

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Food Sector

Nothing to report.

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Water Sector

13. *July 27, Inside Toronto* — **Restrictions on film crews at Canada's Toronto water plant eased. The Toronto Council has backed down on a plan to require criminal background checks on all film crews shooting at city water and wastewater facilities.** The criminal background check requirement was one of a suite of increased security measures that city water and waste water staff wanted to impose on Toronto's photogenic water works facilities. Film crews are particularly attracted to the R.C. Harris Filtration Plant at the base of Victoria Park. **But the site has been closed to filming since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, for fear that terrorists would target Toronto's water supply. Under pressure from the film industry, staff came up with a protocol for filming at the sites.** At R.C. Harris, filming would be limited to exterior only, and staff were recommending the criminal background checks be performed on any crew member who came onto the premises. Industry representatives have said that requirement is overly onerous and demanded its removal. Now, Toronto Council has acquiesced.

Source: http://www.insidetoronto.ca/to/scarborough/story/1225262p-14_59069c.html

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Public Health Sector

14. *July 28, NBC 4 Washington* — **Recommended anthrax treatment may be insufficient. People exposed to high levels of anthrax may need more than the 60 days of antibiotics currently recommended, researchers say.** A team at Johns Hopkins University developed a mathematical analysis of the time needed for anthrax spores to germinate in the lungs and the speed at which they are eliminated by antibiotics. Their conclusion is that in some cases antibiotics should be continued up to four months. **The new study, led by Ron Brookmeyer, concluded that larger doses of the germs take longer to clear from the lungs and said that, while 60 days of antibiotics is adequate in low exposures, in cases of higher exposure treatment may be needed for up to four months.** "During the 2001 U.S. anthrax attacks, many people failed to take the recommended 60 day course of antibiotics. Full compliance was about 60 percent or less in some cases. Our model showed that the reason they didn't get sick, even without the antibiotics, was because the anthrax spore exposure levels were very low. If the exposure levels were higher, there would have been more casualties," Brookmeyer said.

Source: <http://www.nbc4.com/health/2363208/detail.html>

15. *July 28, New Zealand Herald* — **Vaccine for cattle TB points to help for humans. New Zealand scientists are developing a new vaccine for tuberculosis (TB) in cows which may also help millions of human victims of the disease.** The scientists expect to be ready to test the vaccine in cattle and possibly wild possums within five years. "A TB vaccine in cows might also be a vaccine in human beings in the Third World," said researcher Paul Atkinson. About 10 million people a year contract tuberculosis, a disease caused by bacteria which block the victim's lungs. It kills 3.5 million people each year. **The scientists hope to develop a new vaccine by "knocking out" up to 10 genes in the bacteria that cause TB in cows, making the modified bacteria safe to inject into cows, and potentially into people.** Atkinson said that if the project found a successful vaccine, they would look to an international pharmaceutical company to put up the hundreds of millions of dollars that would be needed to get worldwide approvals to use it.

Source: <http://www.nzherald.co.nz/storydisplay.cfm?reportID=53009&storyID=3514858>

16. *July 28, Newsday* — **Anthrax vaccine. More than 500 scientists working on infectious diseases learned recently that their federal grants are being reduced so that the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) can meet a mandate to come up with a new anthrax vaccine. The anthrax vaccine is not included in the \$1.75 billion in scientific research funds to combat bioterrorism that were allocated for 2003 and 2004.** Last year, the White House tagged on an additional \$250 million request to cover anthrax vaccine development, but Congress allocated only \$43 million. The term of grants has been reduced for research on diseases such as AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, Lyme disease, and cholera. According to the Infectious Diseases Society of America, most are four-year grants reduced to 3 1/2 years, but some as short as two years have also lost six months. **An anthrax vaccine is already available and has been used on 2.5 million people, mostly military. Congress and the White House have indicated they want new vaccines made for civilian use, based on more advanced technology.**

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/health/ny-hsanth273391102jul28.0.7241062.story?coll=ny-health-headlines>

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Government Sector

17. *July 28, New York Times* — **Red ink in States beginning to hurt economic recovery. Having already stripped the nation of a source of economic growth, the budget crises in California and in almost every other state are now beginning to drag down the national economy, prolonging the weak, jobless recovery, the latest budget numbers show.** Over the past two years, the states have gradually cut between \$20 billion and \$40 billion no one knows exactly how much from their spending. Billions more in cutbacks are coming in the fiscal year that started July 1. In California alone, a tentative budget deal will presumably require the state to rid itself of at least \$8 billion in current spending, with the cuts likely to fall most heavily on education and aid to the poor. The numbers are hard to add up, but even the most optimistic accounting has state spending slowing sharply while tax rates rise along with a variety of fees. Just three years ago, the states were still a plus for the economy. **Many state governments have been reluctant to lay off workers, preferring instead to freeze hiring and wages and not replace workers who retire or resign. Some states have raised tax rates to help cover**

salaries and thus minimize layoffs. And a great variety of court fines and fees for service have gone up. Minnesota even came up with a new one: public defenders are no longer furnished free; defendants now pay \$50 or more.

Source: http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=68&ncid=68&e=1&u=/nyt/20030728/ts_nyt/redinkinstatesbeginningtohurtecono_micrecovery

18. *July 28, CBS Market Watch* — **California budget impasse, recall vote add to image of chaos. Gloomy services and lean revenues are expected in the short term as the Legislature wrangles with Gov. Gray Davis, the target of the recall effort, to deal with a \$38 billion budget deficit that was supposed to closed nearly a month ago.** Adding to the fiscal limbo, politicians now have the distraction of the battle leading up to the October 7 recall vote, and Wall Street has responded by downgrading California's credit rating to near-junk status. Ultimately, economists say, the collision of forces threatens to unravel the decade-long effort to clean up California's image as a state unfriendly to business. **The most pressing concern is the state's financial shortfall, though the Senate on Sunday night passed a nearly \$100 billion budget plan that includes deep spending cuts.** Bringing a recall election into the mix, however, means the outcome remains unpredictable. **A slew of state services could end up getting choked off if no accord is reached, including unemployment checks, work on state highways -- inhibiting the ability of companies to deliver goods -- and other services.** Under the plan approved by the Senate, about 16,000 state jobs would be cut.

Source: <http://cbs.marketwatch.com/news/story.asp?guid={CE6C6048-5965-473D-8E9C-C3FDA577D2CB}&siteid=google&dist=google>

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Emergency Services Sector

19. *July 28, Associated Press* — **Millions in flood relief going to victims.** More than \$7.1 million in grants and loans have been approved by federal officials to go to victims of this month's flooding across northern and central Indiana. **The total is expected to rise as more applications are reviewed and approved. As of Friday, the Federal Emergency Management Agency had approved 2,224 of the 3,645 applications it had received from owners of Indiana homes and businesses affected by flooding during a weeklong string of storms that began July 4.** On Friday, FEMA had approved \$6,956,496 in grants to individuals and businesses in Indiana, and nine low-interest Small Business Administration loans totaling \$175,800. **Local units of government remain on their own in shouldering disaster-related costs. State Sen. Brandt Hershman, R-Wheatfield, is concerned about the strain that disaster response and recovery has placed on budgets at the local government level.** Hershman contacted Gov. Frank O'Bannon last week to request a proclamation sending immediate support to communities and local governments affected. FEMA is still in the process of determining whether to make federal assistance available to local governments through the Public Assistance program.

Source: <http://www.fortwayne.com/mld/fortwayne/news/local/6402456.htm>

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Information and Telecommunications Sector

20. *July 28, National Journal* — Cybersecurity research essential to combat computer crime.

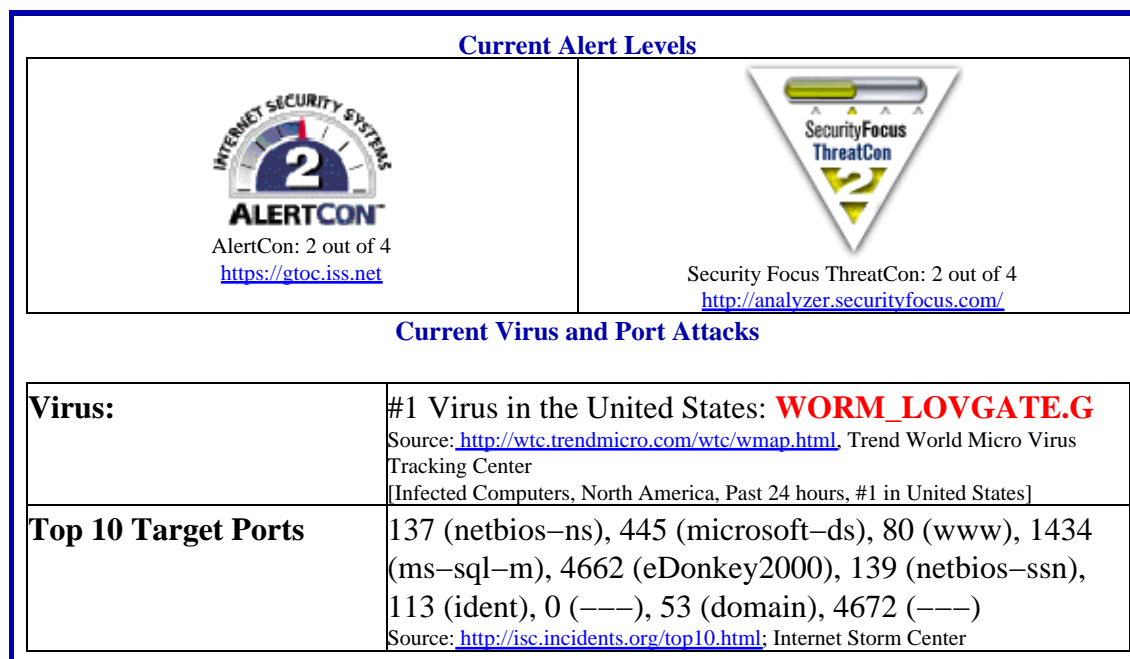
Research and development into cybersecurity is essential to combat computer crime, said Andrew Macpherson of Dartmouth University's Institute for Security Technology Studies Monday, July 28. "There's not really any law on the books that tells companies to turn over [information about cyberattacks], except in California," said Trent Teyema, a supervisory special agent with the FBI's squad for criminal computer intrusions. But **failing to address vulnerabilities can open networks to terrorism**, Macpherson said. **"Terrorists are well aware of our prosecutorial thresholds,"** he said. **"They do minor frauds but [do] many of them."**

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0703/072803td2.htm>

21. *July 27, Washington Post* — Safeguarding wireless networks too much trouble for many users. Experts say that **wireless fidelity, or WiFi, vulnerability is now one of the most serious threats to computer security**. Someone with a WiFi-enabled laptop could walk through an airport and launch a destructive computer virus at every unprotected laptop in the vicinity, because users who tap into a vulnerable network are just as exposed as its host. WiFi equipment comes with an encryption system, Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP), but **entering the required encryption codes can be confusing and can lead to connected systems not functioning properly with each other**. Several companies and code-writing organizations are working on new encryption technology, but experts worry that **it may take a while for improvements to cycle through product lines, and for consumers to upgrade their equipment**.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A51284-2003Jul 26.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard



General Sector

22. July 28, Associated Press — Ohio residents flee rising floodwaters. Flooding forced hundreds of people from their homes Monday, July 28, in northeast Ohio following weekend storms that also knocked out power to thousands of people elsewhere in the Midwest. The Canton Fire Department estimated 1,000 people had been forced from their homes in the city and surrounding areas. **The Akron/Canton area reported 3.78 inches of rain in just three hours Sunday and wind gusted to 70 mph at Sandwich, IL**, about 65 miles west of Chicago, the National Weather Service said. Three to 5 inches of rain south of Chicago also caused scattered flooding, the weather service said. **On Monday, storms stretched through the region from northern Missouri across central Illinois into southern Indian and Ohio and northern Kentucky.** Flooding damage to homes and business in Canton alone was estimated at \$1 million, said Ed Cox, coordinator for the Stark County Emergency Management Agency.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/national/AP-Midwest-Storms.html>

23. July 28, CBS News — Saudis: 16 arrested are al Qaeda. The 16 terror suspects arrested by Saudi police in recent days were al Qaeda members, according to the interior minister, who also warned Saudis not to give money to "suspicious" groups. Prince Nayef also said in comments published in Tuesday's pan-Arab daily Asharq al-Awsat that the 16 detained suspects were not among the 19 terrorists involved in the May 12 suicide bombings of Western housing compounds in Riyadh, which killed 25 people and nine attackers. **Saudi TV showed footage of tractors digging up an underground arsenal that yielded 20 tons of bomb-making chemicals, detonators, rocket-propelled grenades and rifles.** Saudi forces also found night-vision goggles, surveillance cameras, bulletproof vests, passports and forged ID cards.

Source: <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/07/28/attack/main565380.shtml>

DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipic.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

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